

NEWS RELEASE

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TOPEKA GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that 11 individuals were indicted on Jan. 26, 2005, by a federal grand jury in Topeka, Kan. Those indicted include:

Michael R. Zepeda, 22, Tuscon, Ariz., and **Andrea M. Rios**, 22, Tuscon, Ariz., who are charged with possession with intent to distribute 117.35 kilograms (more than 250 pounds) of marijuana. The offense occurred Dec. 18, 2004 in Russell County, Kan.

If convicted, they face a maximum penalty of not less than five years in federal prison and not more than 40 years, as well as a fine up to \$2 million. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy Hendershot is prosecuting.

Juan Manuel Fuentes, 27, Indio, Calif., who is charged with possession with intent to distribute 257 pounds of marijuana on Dec. 5, 2004 in Russell County, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of not less than five years in federal prison and not more than 40 years, as well as a fine up to \$2 million. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy Hendershot is prosecuting.

Tanzitaro Guerrero, 27, Bellflower, Calif., and **Alfredo Torres**, 37, Los Angeles, Calif, who are charged with possession with intent to distribute 4.3 grams of methamphetamine on Jan. 8, 2005, in Shawnee County, Kan.

If convicted, they face a maximum penalty of not less than 10 years and not more than life, as well as a fine up to \$4 million. For defendants who have a prior felony drug conviction, the maximum sentence increases to not less than 20 years and a fine up to \$8 million. The case

was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy M. Hendershot is prosecuting.

Michael Brenman, 32, who is not a citizen of the United States, and is charged with illegally reentering the United States after being convicted of an aggravated felony and deported on Sept. 28, 2004. He was arrested Jan. 11, 2004 in Shawnee County, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison and a fine up to \$250,000. The case was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy Hendershot is prosecuting.

Luis Antonio Ramos-Ortega, 29, a citizen of Honduras who is charged with illegally reentering the United States after being deported following a conviction on an aggravated felony. He was arrested Jan. 20, 2005 in Sedgwick County, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

Juan Carlos Mosso-Delgado, 31, a citizen of Mexico who is charged with illegally reentering the United States after being deported following a conviction on an aggravated felony. He was arrested Jan. 13, 2005 in Seward County, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

Alfredo Garcia-Cardona, 42, who is a citizen of Mexico, and is charged with illegally reentering the United States after being convicted of an aggravated felony and deported. He was arrested Jan. 18, 2005 in Dodge City, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

Cesar Castallanos-Cruz, 38, who is a citizen of Mexico, and is charged with illegally reentering the United States after being deported following conviction on an aggravated felony. He was arrested Jan. 20, 2005 in Dodge City, Kan.

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If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

Sergio Arturo Moreno-Perez, 30, who is a citizen of Mexico and is charged with illegally reentering the United States after being deported following a conviction on an aggravated felony. He was arrested Jan. 19, 2005 in Sedgwick County, Kan.

If convicted, he faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison without parole and a fine up to \$250,000. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson is prosecuting.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The Indictments filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.